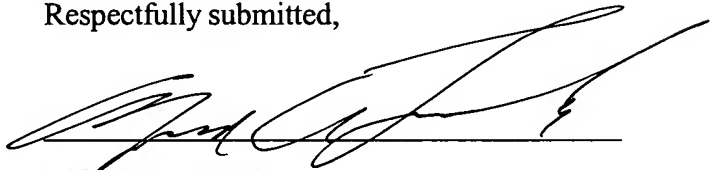


**REMARKS**

Applicant has amended the present application to indicate priority claimed and to conform the application to proper U.S. practice. It is believed that the application is now in condition for examination, and early passage to allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the number below if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alfred A. Fressola', is written over a horizontal line.

Alfred A. Fressola  
Attorney for Applicant  
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Dated: January 18, 2005

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